

Appl. No. 10/079,710
Response date: December 8, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-5 and 12-14 are allowed. Claims 6-10, 15, and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsunikawa (US Patent No. 4,639,924). Claims 11 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsunikawa in view of Gibbs (US Patent No. 5,463,648). Applicant has cancelled claims 6-11 and 15-20.

In view of the above response, Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that such action be taken. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,



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